



DUI Round-Up

46 arrests in March 2012

SANTA BARBARA, CA – April 2, 2012

In March 2012, SBPD made 46 arrests for driving under the influence violations. The following is information on a few of those cases.

3/2/12 2133 hours, Hector Gutierrez (age 29) was driving West on Meigs Road and was observed by the driver in the vehicle behind him as tailgating, weaving and drifting. As Gutierrez crested the Meigs hill and began driving down the hill, he drifted into the oncoming traffic lane and collided with another vehicle head-on causing a major injury traffic collision. Gutierrez fled the scene on foot and was located in the Lazy Acres parking lot a short time later by Officer Rosenberg. Officer Hunter conducted the interview and investigation where Gutierrez admitted that his driving privileges are suspended for a prior DUI. Gutierrez had injuries consistent with having just been in a collision and matched the description of the driver. He refused to cooperate with the investigation and refused to complete any field sobriety tests. Gutierrez was placed under arrest and transported to County Jail by Officer Tudor. Gutierrez provided a blood test which registered his BAC at .13.

Gutierrez identified himself with a driver's license that, upon further investigation, was found to be fraudulent. He was also found to be in possession of a fraudulent social security card. Gutierrez was arrested and booked for felony DUI causing injury, felony hit and run, suspended license, possession of fraudulent driver's license, and referred to the District Attorney for charges relating to the fraudulent social security card.

The driver of the other vehicle was diagnosed as having a broken clavicle, abrasions, bruising, chest pain, and a bloody nose.

3/8/12 1500 hours, Arturo Huerta (age 44) was involved in a single vehicle traffic collision, vehicle into a sign, on Fowler Rd. A citizen who was driving by moments after the collision observed Huerta walking away from the scene and detained him. Officer Ellison from the Santa Barbara Airport Patrol arrived and detained Huerta until SBPD Officer A. Hill arrived. Officer Hill conducted a DUI investigation and Huerta stated that he had consumed 1 beer. Officer Hill determined Huerta was not safe to operate a motor vehicle and placed Huerta under arrest. Huerta provided 3 breath samples of .36, .33 and .36 BAC. Huerta was issued a citation for DUI, unlicensed driver and no insurance.

3/13/12 0220 hours, a juvenile (name withheld) (age 17), was involved in a single vehicle collision. The juvenile was found to be driving at an unsafe speed on Cliff Drive; he lost control of his vehicle and collided with the center median and a sign. Officer Burgard arrived to conduct the DUI investigation and noted that the juvenile appeared intoxicated. The juvenile initially admitted to consuming 1 beer, but later admitted to also drinking "a few shots of vodka." After conducting a DUI investigation Officer Burgard determined

the juvenile was not safe to operate a motor vehicle and detained him for DUI. The juvenile driver provided 2 breath samples of .15 and .15 BAC. He was issued a citation and released to his father.

3/14/12 2205 hours, Laura Melanie Garcia Atallah (age 38) was driving south on De La Vina Street behind a motorcycle. Atallah rear ended the motorcycle causing the motorcyclist to be ejected and thrown approximately 20 feet. Officer Hettrema arrived to conduct the traffic collision investigation and Officer Corbett conducted the DUI investigation. Officer Corbett determined that Atallah was too intoxicated to safely operate a motor vehicle and placed her under arrest. Atallah provided a blood test which registered her BAC at .22. Atallah was booked at County Jail for felony DUI causing injury.

3/16/12 0228 hours, Alisha Nicole Lucas (age 21) was involved in a single vehicle collision into a pole and building in the 2000 block of Chapala Street. Lucas left her vehicle on scene and was witnessed walking away from the scene with an unknown male. Lucas and the male were located 5 blocks away and detained by Officer Rosenberg. Officer Tudor was called and arrived to conduct an investigation. Lucas was found to have injuries consistent with being involved in a collision, the involved vehicle is registered to her, and she had the keys in her possession and later admitted to driving the vehicle. Lucas was transported to the hospital where Officer Tudor completed the DUI investigation. Lucas was found to be too intoxicated to safely operate a motor vehicle and placed under arrest. She provided a blood test which registered her BAC at .22. Lucas was issued a citation for DUI, hit and run, and driving on a suspended license. She was released into the care of Cottage Hospital.

3/18/12 0240 hours, Josue Figueroa (age 22) was driving his vehicle north on San Pascual Street when he collided with a parked vehicle causing major damage. Officer Lombardo arrived to conduct the traffic collision report. Officer Lombardo noted the driver, Figueroa, had signs of intoxication and requested another officer to assist. Officer Freytag arrived and conducted a DUI investigation. Figueroa stated he had consumed several drinks prior to driving. Officer Freytag determined that Figueroa was too intoxicated to safely operate a motor vehicle and placed him under arrest. Figueroa provided a blood test and the results are pending. Figueroa was issued a citation and admitted into the Sobering Center.

3/29/12 at 0125 hours, Cheyanne Brooks (age 20) was involved in a single vehicle traffic collision, vehicle into light pole, in the 2300 block of Skyline Way. The vehicle sustained major damage causing the airbags to deploy. Officer Burgard conducted the traffic collision investigation while Officer Tudor conducted the DUI investigation. Brooks stated she had consumed 1 glass of champagne and 1 beer prior to driving. She also stated she was looking at her cell phone when she collided with the pole. Officer Tudor conducted a DUI investigation and determined that Brooks was too intoxicated to safely operate a motor vehicle. Brooks was placed under arrest. Brooks chose to provide a blood test; however, she was required to complete 1 preliminary alcohol screen test since she is less than 21-years old. Her BAC on the preliminary alcohol screen breath test was .224. The results of the blood test are pending. Brooks was booked into County Jail for DUI.

Contact: Sergeant Riley L. Harwood, Community & Media Relations / PIO

Phone: (805) 897-2320

Fax: (805) 897-2420

Email: rlharwood@sbpd.com



SBPD alerts and community information online now at www.nixle.com

###